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A RADIO CHRISTMAS

—BY—
J. MAE CULP WICK



PRICE 25 CENTS

Eldridge Entertainment House

Franklin, Ohio

and

Denver, Colo.

944 So. Logan Street

Money-Making Entertainment Novelties for Church, School or Lodge

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also

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944 S. Logan St.

A Radio Christmas or Christmas In Room 326

A PLAY IN ONE ACT

**By
J. Mae Culp Wick**

This little play is written in memory of
"Our Jolly Bunch," of Denver Y. W. C. A

PRICE 25 CENTS

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PUBLISHED BY
ELDRIDGE ENTERTAINMENT HOUSE
Franklin, Ohio **Denver, Colo.**

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CHARACTERS

Elizabeth	}	The "Jolly" Bunch
Mary		
Pauline		
Eleanor		
Medea		
"Billy"	}	

(All the girls are dressed in present style, neat business costumes.)

Introducing behind the scenes—for the Radio Concert:

An Announcer—one who is a good reader, either sex.

A Reader.

A Mixed Chorus.

A Male Chorus.



A Children's Chorus.

A phonograph, or other instrument, if desired.

DEC 30 '22

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A Radio Christmas

Scene—Mary's room, 326 in a Y. W. C. A. Some Christmas decorations will give a pretty effect to the room which contains a small bed, several chairs, a dresser, one drawer of which is provided with sugar, cocoa, for candy, table with chafing dish and large spoon, desk which closes. This contains the radio. Any radio-looking device may be used that is provided with a small horn. Large box in which Mary puts Christmas dolls.)

Time—Evening—Night before Christmas.

As curtain rises Mary is seated at radio desk, and after several clicking and buzzing noises, a phonograph back of the scene may play any record desired. However, if local talent is desired, a violin solo would be very well. At close of selection, Mary rises and closes desk.

MARY—It certainly was lovely in the house committee to grant me permission to install this wonderful radio. I'm so glad it is in good working order tonight, as I want to give our Jolly Bunch of girls a surprise concert. (*Knock at door.*) Goodness, I just finished testing in time. Come in. (*Enter Elizabeth with magazine.*) Evening, Elizabeth.

ELIZ.—Christmas greetings to you, Mary. Where are the other girls?

MARY—I haven't seen any of them since dinner. However, I expect them any time. (*Goes over to bed on which is a partly-dressed doll, scraps of material, doll's hat, etc.*) I have one more doll to finish dressing tonight. (*Picks up doll and shows it to Eliz.*)

ELIZ.—It is a darling. Wherever did you get the

idea for dressing a doll so stunningly? (*Sits on bed beside Mary.*)

MARY—Just in my head, I guess. I always thought with the proper training I would have made a modiste.

ELIZ.—You certainly would, with such a cleverness as you have displayed. How many have you dressed for those "Friendless Kiddies" at the home?

MARY—This will be twelve. One for each friendless little girlie. I can see their happy little faces now, when they receive their new dolls. Some of the ones they are so fond of now are sights to behold. The Jolly Bunch are all going along in the morning to the Christmas tree exercises at the Friendless Home, are they not?

ELIZ.—I am planning to go, and the other girls are, too, as we are going to play a little Santa to them ourselves.

MARY—I am so glad, and I know it will help us all to forget we are miles from home this Christmas. Besides, it will give happiness to those dear little ones who have no home folks to think about.

ELIZ.—Aren't you even curious to know what the girls are going to give?

MARY—Of course, I am just crazy to know, only I thought maybe it was to be a surprise for me, also. Do tell me.

ELIZ.—Well, for myself, I love books. Christmas never seemed quite right to me if Santa did not leave me a new book, so a book for each is my gift.

MARY—That is lovely, and I know the girls will think so, too. What did the others plan?

ELIZ.—Medea and Billy will give the nuts and candy. Eleanor and Pauline decided fruit would be their gift. They said, "What would Christmas be to a child without a little sweetness and stomachache?"

MARY—You can just count on the heavy-weights to think of eats every time. You know, ever since we were all out to the Home with the Thanksgiving baskets, the

children have been asking me when those jolly ladies were coming again. (*Knock at door.*) Come. (*Enter Eleanor and Pauline. Eleanor has a little cup of milk, and Pauline a little roll of butter.*)

ELEANOR AND PAULINE—Merry Christmas, girls!

MARY AND ELIZ.—Hello, and Merry Christmas to you.

ELIZ.—Just see what they have brought: a cup of milk and roll of butter. Sounds like candy to me.

PAULINE—Count on Sister to think of eats if I don't. (*They place milk and butter on chafing dish table.*)

ELEANOR—You all seem to enjoy the fruit of my thoughts.

MARY—I should say the candy of your thoughts.

(*Eleanor and Pauline find chairs and draw near to Mary and Elizabeth.*)

ELIZ.—(*rising*) Not I, girls. Do you think I have lost any since I started to diet?

PAULINE—Where did you think you had lost it?

ELIZ.—(*as she sits down*) Nevertheless, after the Holidays, no sweets for me.

ELEANOR—Not to change the subject, but Mary, are the dolls for the Friendless Kiddies nearly ready?

MARY—This is the last one. (*Showing doll.*)

ELEANOR AND PAULINE—And isn't it a dream?

MARY—Hardly that, but I am glad you are all pleased with my efforts. Elizabeth was just telling me what you girls have planned to do, and I think it's splendid.

PAULINE—Well, I don't know. Since we are all so far from home that financial conditions force us to remain here at the Y. W. C. A., during the Holidays, why shouldn't we put into it all the Christmas spirit we have? Let's try to make it a Christmas we shall always remember.

ELIZ.—Now, that is the proper spirit, don't you think so, girls?

ELEANOR—Sister can surely get dramatic when there is a touch of loneliness in the air.

MARY—Someone will have a lonely touch removed, or that huge box the expressman delivered here this morning was a joke.

ELEANOR—It is no joke, as it is peacefully resting in our room.

PAULINE—That is not my fault it is resting so peacefully after its long journey from Bean Blossom. If I had been here, those "Don't open until Christmas" seals would not have had the effect on me they did on Eleanor.

MARY—Nevertheless, it is terribly exciting. (*Knock at door.*)

ELEANOR—The other members of our Jolly Sextette. (*As she goes to door*) The password, or you cannot enter 326.

MEDEA AND BILLY—The Dutch Mill.

ELEANOR—(*opening door*) Enter, fair maids.

(*Enter Medea and Billy, with wraps on and arms full of packages.*)

MEDEA AND BILLY—Hello Bunch!

ALL—Hello, girls!

MARY—It certainly looks like Christmas was here.

ELIZ.—Shopping on the night before Christmas?

MEDEA—(*as she and Billy put packages on table and remove wraps*) Yes, just a little of that "Don't rush before Christmas" shopping. I just bet Billy a chocolate malted milk that she would wait until the very last minute to make that important purchase.

BILLY—Girls, you all know how difficult it is to decide on some gifts by yourself.

MEDEA—Yes, girls, so much depends on the correct gift. That is why, at this eleventh hour, I hurried along

to help choose between a fountain pen, handkerchiefs, or a box of stationery.

ELEANOR—Don't keep us curious any longer. What was the decision?

ALL—Yes, do tell us.

ELIZ.—Show us, Billy, please.

BILLY—(*as she finds the right package, opens a box of handkerchiefs. Girls crowd around and look at them with pleased expressions of "Oh, so pretty," "Aren't they beautiful?" etc.*) I'm glad you like them, girls.

MEDEA—There, Billy, didn't I tell you that handkerchiefs were the proper gift?

BILLY—Yes, you are right; but I could hardly resist that exquisite box of stationery. However, when Medea said that it might give the impression that I wanted a letter, that settled it.

PAULINE—Yes, and handkerchiefs are so useful, especially in the winter. Who is the "L" for, Billy?

BILLY—Now, all of you girls quit teasing.

ELIZ.—It must be great to have such an important gift to select. (*Keeps looking through the magazine during the play.*)

ELEANOR—(*as she gets the chafing dish in operation*) Not to interrupt such an interesting subject, girls, but if we are to have refreshments tonight, I move that I get busy with the chafing dish.

ALL—We second the motion, chef; and we'll help, too. (*They bring ingredients for fudge from dresser and the fudge is started. Eleanor stirs, while the other girls find chairs.*)

BILLY—How are the dolls coming along, Mary?

MARY—All finished but this one. (*Holds up doll.*)

BILLY AND MEDEA—Isn't that darling?

MARY—If Billy will trim its hat, I'll be happy.

BILLY—(*as she picks up doll hat, etc.*) You know this doll shall not be slighted, Mary, since I have trimmed

the hats for all the other dolls.

MEDEA—Girls, I need sympathy. This little handkerchief for the maid must be finished tonight. I shall never attempt to make another Christmas gift. (*The handkerchief may be in her purse.*)

ELEANOR—Why, that is the fun in Christmas.

MEDEA—Maybe; but not when it takes forever to make one little gift. The clerk at the store told me that handkerchiefs were so easily made.

ELIZ.—How is the candy? almost ready, chef?

ELEANOR—Get some water, quick, someone. (*Holds out empty cup.*)

ELIZ.—(*takes cup and fills with water from a pitcher on dresser*) Here you are.

ELEANOR—(*testing fudge, which is not cooked enough*) Not quite ready.

BILLY—(*puts doll hat on self*) Well, girls, how do you like my new hat?

ALL—Perfectly stunning.

PAULINE—Oh, Billy, why don't you open a millinery shop?

BILLY—Not I, thank you. I prefer to peg out my living on old Underwood, to finding the proper hat for the proper lady.

MARY—(*holds up doll all dressed and Billy takes off hat*) Now, let us try the hat on the little miss. (*Puts hat on doll.*) Complete, and I shall put it with the others for an early start in the morning. (*Puts doll in large box.*)

BILLY—What hour is this festival to begin?

MARY—We leave here in time to arrive at the Home at ten. I suppose we should start at nine-thirty.

ALL—We will all be on time.

BILLY—How would you girls like to hear Medea's new song?

PAULINE—We certainly need a little Christmas song to cheer us.

MEDEA—That excuses me, as this isn't a Christmas song.

MARY—Nevertheless, we refuse to excuse you.

MEDEA—I haven't even gone over it once. Professor Whiteman just gave it to me today.

ELIZ.—This wouldn't be the first time we have been your audience at first try-outs, so please don't feel embarrassed on our account.

MEDEA—(*goes over to packages and locates song*) Here it is. (*Unwraps song and rolls it out flat.*)

ELEANOR—(*as she makes another test of candy*) Girls, it is done—the candy. Now comes your turn, Mary. (*Mary stirs candy while Eleanor puts out chafing dish fire and gets pan buttered ready for fudge.*)

MARY—I'm feeling like refreshments. Doesn't it smell good?

MEDEA—Please don't say eats before I sing, girls. Don't you know one cannot sing just after eating?

PAULINE—It has to cool, first, so do hurry.

(*Medea stands, ready to sing.*)

BILLY—By the way, please give us the title.

(*Medea names some catchy little song and sings.*)

ALL—(*applauding*) Great! (*Medea bows.*)

MEDEA—Thank you all, so much. Do you think I shall ever make my way to grand opera?

ELIZ.—You certainly will, Medea, and we all want to be in your first audience.

MEDEA—That is mighty sweet of you, girls, but one has to work very hard to even be noticed in the musical world, to which there is no royal road.

MARY—(*who should have had candy poured in pan, by this time; if not Eleanor takes it.*) This gives me an opportunity for a little surprise on which I have been working, and wanted complete for tonight.

ELEANOR—A secret from us?

PAULINE—How could you, Mary?

MARY—I am sure that you will forgive me, when you hear my secret. As you know, I have been working rather diligently, but I feel as though it has been play. I have to confess that I am a radio fan, and have a receiving set right here in my room.

BILLY—Isn't that just like Mary?

ELIZ.—It certainly is. She can always think of and do more things than any girl I ever knew.

MEDEA—My, how wonderful to hear the famous singers, right here.

PAULINE—Where is it? Don't keep us in suspense any longer.

MARY—(*going to little desk, opens it, disclosing little outfit with the horn*) Here you are, girls.

(*All crowd around and exclaim, "How interesting," "Wonderful," etc.*)

ELEANOR—Are we to hear a concert tonight?

MARY—By all means. (*Seats herself at desk. Operates, making a buzzing noise.*) We shall soon hear something, as no doubt many things will be broadcasted tonight.

PAULINE—I wonder if the Civic League of Broken Bow is putting on a concert?

MARY—I have heard them several times, and their program is most pleasing. I shall see if I can get in touch with them.

(*A great buzz is heard, and a voice of the announcer. The program should be given behind the curtain. Any good musical numbers may be given. During the program, the girls may be seated, and the candy eaten. However, if the suggested program is followed, there should be either extra sheets on the bed or in the dresser so all the girls can be dressed alike for the pantomimes. They could easily have a pantomime costume to slip on.*)

THE SUGGESTED PROGRAM

ANNOUNCER—(*behind scene*) The little Christmas program which follows is given by the Civic League of our own little town of Broken Bow, and for the benefit of those who are unable to personally attend an entertainment, we will send this broadsast by radio. The "Old Old Story of Christmas" will be told again by ———

READER—"The Old, Old Story of Christmas,"

The old, old story, the story ever new, will be told and retold today throughout Christendom. It is a story of miracle and wonder that has been denied over and over again, but never by any man or woman on the scene. It has been testified to by many who saw it and twenty centuries of experience by millions of people testify to its truth.

The story has to do with shepherds, common people, innkeepers, travelers, a devout Jew, his lovely and innocent wife, both descended from a line of Hebrew Kings then several centuries old, and a sweet little babe in a manger, with wise men as courtiers and angels as messengers. It all has with it the pure sweet breath of the country, of bleating sheep and patient camel, the stars overhead and the warm breezes of the season with heavenly music, and the glory of the Lord all about.

The little inn at Bethlehem, perhaps once viewed by David, the founder of the kingly line, perhaps known to Solomon, the most magnificent and powerful monarch of that line, was the scene of the mighty drama in which both heaven and earth took part with the universe, perhaps, for an audience. This inn was perhaps in full view of the field in which the gentle Ruth gleaned of the corn of Boaz, and perhaps near the threshing floor where, under her mother-in-law's discreet and wise tutelage this maiden won the heart of Boaz, and thus entered the line from which the Babe descended. It was crowded with Jews brought there by the Roman edict which required

all subjects of the empire to register at the town of their birth. So badly crowded was it that when Carpenter Joseph of Nazareth and his comely wife applied for admission, the innkeeper was about to turn them away. Finally they were taken to the part of the inn where the camels and asses were ordinarily tethered.

Out on the Judean hills the shepherds were tending their sleeping flocks. Perchance they made their rounds to see whether wolf or wild beast of other kind were prowling about, and whether any heedless member of the flock had wandered to the cliffs and tumbled over. We can imagine those sturdy shepherds relieving each other at the task, perhaps in regular watches as was sometimes done. Slowly the long hours dragged along, and the sleepy shepherds drowsily stepped about, or those who were not on watch, crook in hand, perhaps lay down to deep sleep.

We can imagine the dark night relieved only by the brilliant starlight. But lo! there is an unusual feeling comes over those who are awake. A sudden breath of electrified air, perhaps, a mysterious glow that lightens the shadow. It is a different glow seen, and a peculiar rustle detected in the air. Visitants from the Unseen World are round and about the sleeping shepherd, perchance awaiting the signal. And suddenly:

"An Angel of the Lord stood by them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them." No doubt the sleepers awoke with a start and no doubt "they were sore afraid. And an Angel said unto them, Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people: for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour who is Christ, the Lord."

The angel then pauses in his message to show the shepherds how they can prove the message true, telling them where they could find the Royal Little Stranger, and how they could recognize Him when they saw Him. The Wise Men recognized Him by the great glowing

star, a sign that appealed to them and impressed them, while the shepherds were to recognize Him by the swaddling clothes He wore.

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men in whom He is well pleased."

Who is there today who would not have treasured the scenes of this great night which not only gave Earth a glimpse of Heaven, but gave her a Master to teach her the way into that Heaven?

The story today in speech and in song will convince and confirm the faith of thousands and throughout all ages it will gain the faith of men, and confirm that faith by an inward conviction that the "world can neither give nor take away," and which the world can never understand.

ANNOUNCER—"There's a Song in the Air," soprano solo by ———.

(Pauline quickly slips into pantomime robe and pantomimes the song. She keeps on the robe for the remainder of the play.)

ANNOUNCER—"When Good Old Kris Comes Round," sung by Children's Chorus.

(Girls listen. No pantomime. They may make funny gestures.)

MARY—Now, girls, you are to have a part in your own entertainment. I'll want you to repeat this for the Children's Home and you can practice pantomiming these beautiful songs.

BILLY—Well, Mary, we'll do the best we can.

ANNOUNCER—"O Little Town of Bethlehem," sung by Chorus.

(All girls don pantomime robes and give pantomime. They leave the robes on for remainder of play.)

ANNOUNCER—"We Three Kings of the Orient Are," sung by male chorus.

(Girls listen in graceful pose; no pantomime.)

ANNOUNCER—"Silent Night," sung by chorus.

(Elizabeth gives pantomime. Others listen in pleasing pose.)

ANNOUNCER—"Hark the Herald Angels Sing," solo by ———.

(All girls give pantomime. This number would be a pleasing ending especially if given with red or green tableau lights.)

CURTAIN



N. B.—If this little play is used for school, church, or other entertainment, where it is desired to distribute candy, etc., after curtain, it may be raised again, and the Jolly Bunch distribute the treat. This may be on the stage in the boxes.

Also, if making the fudge in chafing dish is objected to, on account of possible fire, instantaneous or canned heat may be used, or the fudge made before the play, so there will be some for eating. It is desired, however, that carrying out the making be done. The songs and pantomimes suggested will be found in "Ten Good Christmas Pantomimes," published by The Eldridge Entertainment House, price 40 cents. The performance may be made longer by introducing more songs.

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"WHEN MONTY CAME HOME FROM THE MARNE"

BY SEYMOUR S. TIBBALS

THE STORY tells of a widow's son, a peaceful young farmer, who enlisted in the U. S. Marines and lost an arm, as his father lost an arm at Shiloh. A stirring description of a gas attack and how the Marines won the fight.

The climax is reached when Monty comes back and drives the cattle up the lane.

Suitable for any reader and a number that will be welcome on any program.

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Training Mary

By Mary Shaw Page. A bright 1-act play with simple stage setting. William, husband of Mary, essays to train Mary, especially along the lines of correcting carelessness. As is always the case, William gets in deep water, but finally wades out. 2 males, 4 females, and plays about 45 minutes. Price, 25c.

The Hired Man's Courtship

By Alice Cripps. A short comedy-drama in 2 acts. Captain Edwards tires of wealth and the city, and procures work on Horton's farm, only to find that the farmer's daughter is an old sweetheart. Because of an intrigue on the part of the captain's cousin, an estrangement takes place, which ends happily when the captain finds the source of certain stories and refutes them. Aunt Hepsey, Jim and Ezra (colored), add comedy to the play. Plays about 45 minutes, and is for 3 males and 3 females. Price, 25c.

Merely Anne Marie

A comedy in 3 acts by Beulah King. 3 males, 5 females. Time, 2½ hours. The scenes are laid in a fashionable boarding house, and the characters are all distinct types and worth while. A successful playwright, desiring to escape notoriety, seeks seclusion at Mrs. Teague's and becomes the hero of Anne Marie, the dining room maid. The dialogue is bright, the situations clever and the story ends happily. 35c.

A Bit of Scandal

By Fannie Barnett Linsky. Comedy-drama in 2 acts. Francina, who is to play at the recital, composes her own number. On the evening of the recital, Mary Sherman, who precedes her on the program, plays Francina's compositions, which she has stolen. The reasons for the theft all come out later and of course, all ends well. Nine characters. Plays about 1 hour. Price, 35c.

Miss Burnett Puts One Over

By Ethelyn Sexton. A rollicking 1-act girls' play for 6 characters. Barbara's mother has a friend, Ann Burnett, who is to visit the girls at college, with the intention of giving a generous sum to the school. The girls, wishing to gain her good will, practice their "manners." Miss Burnett, however, appears in disguise and has much fun at their expense. All ends well and the school gets the money. Plays about 45 minutes. Easy setting and costumes. Price, 25c.

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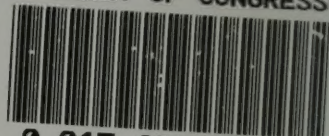
If We Were You and You Were Us.
We'll Try to Make You Come Again.
It's Very Clear Your Welcome Here.
Hello, Everybody—Glad to See You
Here.

With a Tear In One Eye, We Will
Tell You Goodbye.

It's Time to Tell You All Goodbye.

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Emily's Dream

By Mary Frix Kidd. This is the story of a Geography lesson, which, instead of being irksome, was, through the medium of a Good Fairy, made very interesting. This is done by presenting a Geographical Pageant. For a large number of children, who present drills, exercises, etc., in costumes of different nations. Time, about 1 hour. Price, 25c.

The Love Flower

By Bell Elliott Palmer. A very pretty exercise for 6 or 10 girls and 1 boy. Suitable for Children's Day or Easter, and can be given either in or out of doors. Time, 10 minutes. Price, 15c.

The Silver Sandals

By Banche Thompson. This is a charming new play for 6 boys, 5 girls, fairies, peasants, attendants, etc. The Princess is downhearted and refuses to be consoled. The fiddler plays, peasants do folk-dances, fairies drill, but not until she gets the silver sandals is she contented. Plays 1 hour or more. Price, 25c.

When Betty Saw the Pilgrims

By Margaret Howard. A pretty story showing how dissatisfied Betty was cured by her mother, who tells the story of the hardships of the Pilgrims, which is illustrated by ten tableaux. Large numbers of children can be used. Plays about 30 minutes. Price, 25c.

Princess Rosy Cheeks

By Effie Sammond Balph. A "good health" play for children, which is very impressive. Introduces Fresh Air Fairies, Soap and Water Fairies, Tooth Brush Brigade, Food Fairies, Rest Fairies, and others. Good-sized cast required with two older children. Plays about 1 hour. Price, 35c.

Queen Loving Heart

By Jean Ross. A splendid children's play, teaching many good lessons. A pretty story of the crowning of Loving Heart, her capture by the Indians and subsequent release, because of her kindness. Can be used for May Day play. 11 speaking parts, Indians, etc. Plays about 45 minutes. Price, 25c.

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